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Application Number

10/649,277

Filing Date

08/27/2003

First Named Inventor

Geoffry A. Westphal

Art Unit

2623

Examiner Name

LaRose, Colin M.

Attorney Docket Number

31083.07US2

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

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Firm Name	Customer No. 34018 - Greenberg Traurig, LLP		
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Date	November 21, 2005	Reg. No.	35,906

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Westphal et al.)	Examiner:	LaRose, Colin M.
)		
Application No.:	10/649,277)	Attny Doc.:	31083.07US2
)		
Filing Date:	08/27/2003)	Art Unit:	2623
)		
Title:	System And Method For)		
	Image Compression, Storage)		
	And Retrieval)		

APPEAL BRIEF

Mail Stop Appeal Briefs - Patents
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Dear Sir:

Appellants hereby appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences from the Examiner's final rejection of claims 1-25 and 27-39 which rejection was set forth in the final Office Action mailed July 13, 2005. A timely Notice of Appeal was filed.

This brief is accompanied by the fee required by 37 CFR § 41.20

This Appeal Brief is being filed in triplicate.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 50-2428 in the name of Greenberg Traurig.

11/29/2005 TBESHAH1 00000012 10649277

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By: _____

Vivian DeLaRosa

I. Real Party In Interest

The real party in interest is W.W. Grainger, Inc.

II. Related Appeals And Interferences

No appeals or interferences are known which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

III. Status Of The Claims

In the application, claims 1-25 and 27-39 remain pending and, having been finally rejected, are the subject of this appeal. Claims 26 was canceled during the course of prosecution.

The Section IX appendix provides a clean, double spaced copy of pending claims 1-25 and 27-39.

IV. Status Of Amendments

The claims are in condition for appeal – no amendments to the claims are pending.

V. Summary Of The Claimed Subject Matter

The claimed subject matter is generally directed to a system and method for increasing the utilization capabilities of a memory device. (page 3, lines 11-21). To this end, with reference to Figs. 1 and 2 and the specification as filed, the system and method that is set forth in the claims creates for each of a plurality of original images a plurality of resultant images by altering the content of each of the plurality of original images a corresponding plurality of different ways. By way of example, the content of the original images may be altered by performing one or more of the following to the original image: rotating the original image; flipping the original image; changing the number of colors in the original image; changing the image grayscale; changing the image resolution; changing the image sharpness; changing the

image contrast; changing the image brightness; changing the image opacity; etc. (page 5, line 20-page 8, line 14). To automate the process associated with altering the content of the original images, image manipulation macros may be created within an imaging utility to apply various ones of the imaging techniques, in various sequences, to each of the original images. For example, using 20 image manipulation macros to alter the original content of 30,000 images yields 600,000 resultant images. (page 9, lines 2-5). Each of the resultant images for each original image is then compressed and from the compressed, resultant images one image is selected (for example, the compressed, resultant image having the smallest file size) for storage in the memory device. Preferably, the selected, compressed, resultant image is stored in a concatenation file (page 9, line 20-page 11, line 4).

As further described within the subject application for patent, by altering the content of the original images a plurality of different ways prior to the compression of the altered images and then selecting appropriate, compressed, resultant images for storage, the system and method that is set forth in the claims provides the unexpected result of reducing by approximately 40% the amount of memory required to store images as compared to the amount of memory required to store images when the images are compressed without the original content of the images being first altered. (page 12, lines 12-21).

VI. Grounds Of Rejection To Be Reviewed On Appeal

1. Whether the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 of claims 1-24 and 28-39 generally can be maintained when the record demonstrates that the only suggestion for combining the references in the manner advanced stems from hindsight knowledge impermissibly derived from the appellant's disclosure.

2. Whether the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 of claims 4, 5, 8, 9, 17, 18, 21, 22, 31, 32, 35, and 36 specifically can be maintained when the record demonstrates that the only suggestion for combining the references in the manner advanced stems from hindsight knowledge impermissibly derived from the appellant's disclosure.

3. Whether the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 of claims 10, 23, and 37 specifically can be maintained when the record demonstrates that the only suggestion for combining the references in the manner advanced stems from hindsight knowledge impermissibly derived from the appellant's disclosure.

4. Whether the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 of claims 25 and 27 specifically can be maintained when the references, whether considered alone or in combination, simply fail to disclose, teach, or suggest each and every element set forth in the claims considering each and every word.

VII. Argument

A) Status of the claims

In the application claims 1-25 and 27-39 remain pending. Claim 26 was canceled during prosecution. No claims presently stand allowed.

B) Summary of the rejection of the claims

Pending claims 1-3, 6, 7, 12-16, 19, 20, 28-30, 33, 34, and 39 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being rendered obvious by Takagi (U.S. Patent No. 5,486,893) as modified by Lee (U.S. Patent No. 5,635,984) as further modified by Kutcha (U.S. Patent No. 5,164,831).

In rejecting these claims, it was asserted that Takagi discloses a method and system for compressing and storing a plurality of images which includes creating for each of a plurality of original images a plurality of resultant images by altering the content of each of the plurality of original images and selecting from the plurality of resultant images one resultant image. While it was acknowledged that Takagi fails to disclose compressing the resultant images, it was asserted that Lee discloses that, in order to display more than one picture on a screen simultaneously, that picture data must be compressed. It was therefore concluded that it would have been obvious to compress each resultant image as claimed “since Lee teaches that in order to display multiple images on a camera screen (as in Fig. 15 of Takagi), the images must be reduced so that they fit onto the screen.” While it was further acknowledged that the combination of Takagi and Lee does not disclose storing the selected, compressed resultant image in a file, it was asserted that Kutcha discloses storing a compressed, or thumbnail version of captured images. It was therefore further concluded that it would have been obvious to modify Takagi and Lee to achieve the claimed invention since Kutcha discloses that “when thumbnail images are displayed and one is selected, it is advantageous to store not only the full-resolution image but also the selected thumbnail image.”

Pending claims 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 17, 18, 21, 22, 24, 31, 32, 35, 36, and 38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being rendered obvious by Takagi (U.S. Patent No. 5,486,893) as modified by Lee (U.S. Patent No. 5,635,984) as further modified by Kutcha (U.S. Patent No. 5,164,831) as still further modified by Kagle (U.S. Patent No. 6,148,149).

In rejecting these claims it was acknowledged that none of Takagi, Lee, or Kutcha disclose, teach, or suggest altering the content of an original image by rotating or flipping the original image. It was asserted, however, that Kagle discloses a system that automatically

detects the orientation of a camera when a picture is taken and then adjusts the picture by rotating (flipping) the image so that a portrait image corresponds to the default orientation of the landscape. It was therefore concluded that it would have been obvious to modify Takagi to further alter the original image by rotation “since Kagle teaches that a user may desire for captured images to all conform to a default orientation.”

Pending claims 10, 23, and 37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being rendered obvious by Takagi (U.S. Patent No. 5,486,893) as modified by Lee (U.S. Patent No. 5,635,984) as further modified by Kutcha (U.S. Patent No. 5,164,831) as still further modified by Higgins (U.S. Patent No. 5,835,627).

In rejecting these claims it was acknowledged that none of Takagi, Lee, or Kutcha disclose, teach, or suggest altering the content of an original image by adjusting the size of the original image. It was asserted, however, that Higgins discloses that digital cameras include algorithms that resize captured images and that resizing is typically done before subsequent processing. It was therefore concluded that it would have been obvious to modify Takagi according to the teachings of Higgins since it allows a user “to place an original image in a desired size.”

Pending claims 25 and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being rendered obvious by Takeda (U.S. Patent No. 5,343,560) as modified by Kagle (U.S. Patent No. 6,148,149).

In rejecting these claims it was acknowledged that Takeda fails to disclose, teach, or suggest altering the content of an original image by rotating or flipping the original image. It was asserted, however, that Kagle discloses a system that automatically detects the orientation of a camera when a picture is taken and then adjusts the picture by rotating (flipping) the image so

that a portrait image corresponds to the default orientation of the landscape. It was therefore concluded that it would have been obvious to modify Takeda to further alter the original image by rotation “since Kagle teaches that flipping or rotating an image upon display into the image’s original orientation eliminates the need for a user to preview and rotate the images manually.”

C) Applicable Law

It is well settled that a determination of obviousness requires that a combination of prior art references include each and every element set forth in the claims, considering each and every word. This requirement that the claimed invention be considered “as a whole” is meant to prevent evaluation of an invention part by part, i.e., breaking an invention into its component parts and then merely finding a reference containing one part, another reference containing another part, etc., and to prevent the impermissible use of the specification of the applicant as a template to combine these parts for the purpose of deprecating the invention claimed. Thus, to assure that such “hindsight reasoning” is not used when assessing the patentability of a claimed invention, a rejection based upon a combination of references requires a demonstration that an artisan of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, confronted with the same problems and with no knowledge of the claimed invention, would have selected the various parts from the references and combined them in the claimed manner. *In re Fritch*, 972 F.2d 1260, 1266 (Fed. Cir. 1992). The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, not in applicant’s disclosure. *In re Vaeck*, 947 F.2d 488 (Fed. Cir. 1991).

D) Remarks Addressing The Rejection Of Claims 1-24 and 28-39 Generally

Claims 1-24 and 28-39 stand rejected based primarily upon Takagi as modified by Lee as further modified by Kutcha.

In the rejection of the claims it has been acknowledged that Takagi fails to disclose, teach, or suggest at least the claimed compressing each of a plurality of resultant images or the claimed selecting from a plurality of compressed, resultant images created for each original image one compressed, resultant image which may then be placed into memory.

Considering now Lee, Lee discloses a digital camera that addresses the problem of how to view more than one image on a display. More particularly, in contrast to that which is claimed, Lee describes using a compression method that requires the reading out of original image data already stored within memory and then displaying the original image data that is read from memory with predetermined horizontal and vertical lines omitted. Thus, like Tagaki, Lee does not disclose, teach, or suggest the desirability of compressing altered original images to thereby increase the number of images storable in a memory device.

While Lee may disclose the desirability of compressing images read from memory for the purpose of allowing multiple images to be displayed on the screen of a camera as asserted in the rejection of the claims, it is respectfully submitted that this disclosure from within Lee nevertheless fails to present a *prima facie* case of obviousness. For example, it is not evident nor has it been explained why one of ordinary skill in the art would have turned to this disclosure within Lee to address the problem confronted by the claimed invention of how to increase the number of images storable in a memory device, especially when Lee discloses storing full sized images in memory in the first place. Still further, while Lee may disclose the desirability of compressing images read from memory for the purpose of allowing multiple images to be

displayed on the screen of a camera, it is respectfully submitted that nothing from Lee can be said to suggest the desirability of modifying Takagi to arrive at a system that first alters the content of original images and then compresses each of the plurality of resultant images for any purpose, let alone for the purpose of increasing the number of images that can be stored in a memory device as is claimed. Rather, the plain teachings of Lee would suggest the desirability of modifying Takagi to include the reading from memory of an original, unaltered image, the compressing of the original, unaltered image read from memory by removing alternating vertical and horizontal lines from the original, unaltered image, and thereafter the displaying of compressed image in manners that reflect various camera settings, which will be appreciated as being in direct contrast to the invention set forth in the claims. Yet further, it is respectfully submitted that it is not even evident nor has it been explained why a person of ordinary skill in the art would have found it obvious to modify the system of Takagi “in order to display multiple images on a camera screen, as in Figure 15 of Takagi,” when it has been acknowledged that Takagi, as evidenced by Figure 15, already displays a plurality of images for use in selecting a camera setting. More particularly, it is not evident nor has it been explained why a person of ordinary skill in the art would have found it obvious to reconstruct Takagi using Lee when the objective for reconstructing Takagi espoused in the rejection of the claims is far more easily accomplished by simply using the camera of Takagi in its unmodified state.

From the foregoing, while Lee may disclose the desirability of compressing images to allow for the display of multiple images, the disclosure within Lee nevertheless fails to demonstrate that an artisan of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, confronted with the same problems and with no knowledge of the claimed invention, would have selected the “compression teachings” of Lee (which are directed to solving the problem of how to display

full sized images read from memory and not the problem of how to maximize image storage capacity) and combined those teachings with Takagi to necessarily arrive at the invention set forth in the claims, considering the claims “as a whole.” Accordingly, it is submitted that the reconstruction of Tagaki in view of Lee that has been advanced in the rejection of claims 1-24 and 28-39 is not only unduly speculative but could only have been arrived at from hindsight knowledge impermissibly derived from the subject application. For at least this reason it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-24 and 28-39 fails to present a *prima facie* case of obviousness and must be withdrawn.

Turning now to Kutcha, Kutcha discloses “a digital camera that stores images in a format that includes both reduced and high resolution versions of an original image” to offer the advantage of “quick review of images captured by or stored in the camera prior to further processing or selection.” Kutcha, by espousing the storage of both thumbnail images and original images is clearly not concerned with the objective of increasing the number of images storable on a memory device. It will also be appreciated that Kutcha, which expressly teaches the desirability of storing thumbnail images prior to processing or selection, teaches directly against the system claimed, i.e., one in which the original content of images are processed *prior to* compression, selection, and storage to thereby increase the number of images capable of being stored in a memory device. Furthermore, it is not evident nor has it been explained why a person of ordinary skill in the art would have found it obvious to reconstruct Takagi/Lee using Kutcha (“for convenience of thumbnail display”) when the objective for the reconstruction espoused in the rejection of the claims is far more easily accomplished by simply using the camera of Takagi in its unmodified state which, “as in Figure 15 of Takagi,” already allows for the display of thumbnail images. Yet further, it is respectfully submitted that the reconstruction of Takagi/Lee

in view of Kutcha espoused in the rejection of the claims would impermissibly change the principle of operation of at least Lee. In this regard, the reconstruction of Takagi/Lee espoused in the rejection of the claims would necessitate the changing of Lee from a system in which original images are required to be stored in memory and thereafter compressed at the time of display to a system which requires compressing images prior to storage and display.

From the foregoing it is respectfully submitted that, while Kutcha may disclose the desirability of storing thumbnail images, the disclosure within Kutcha nevertheless fails to demonstrate that an artisan of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, confronted with the same problems and with no knowledge of the claimed invention, would have selected the “thumbnail storage teachings” of Kutcha (which are directed to the problem of making images accessible and not the problem of how to maximize image storage capacity) and combined those teachings with Takagi/Lee to necessarily arrive at the invention set forth in the claims. Rather, it has been demonstrated that the disclosure with Kutcha would have been avoided by one of ordinary skill in the art for the simple reason that Kutcha teaches away from the invention claimed and espouses a modification that would change the principle of operation of at least Lee. Accordingly, it is submitted that the reconstruction of Tagaki/Lee in view of Kutcha that has been advanced in the rejection of claims 1-24 and 28-39 is not only unduly speculative but could only have been arrived at from hindsight knowledge impermissibly derived from the subject application. For at least this reason it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-24 and 28-39 fails to present a *prima facie* case of obviousness and must be withdrawn.

E) Remarks Addressing The Rejection Of Claims 4, 5, 8, 9, 17, 18, 21, 22, 31, 32, 35, and 36 Specifically

Claims 4, 5, 8, 9, 17, 18, 21, 22, 31, 32, 35, and 36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being rendered obvious by Takagi, as modified by Lee, as further modified by Kutcha, as still further modified by Kagle.

In rejecting these claims it was acknowledged that none of Takagi, Lee, or Kutcha disclose, teach, or suggest altering the content of an original image by rotating or flipping the original image and/or storing data indicating that that the original image was rotated or flipped prior to the altered image being compressed and stored.

Turning now to Kagle, it is respectfully submitted that the disclosure within Kagle fails to teach or suggest the desirability of modifying Takagi to purposefully rotate an original image (claims 4, 17, and 31) or purposefully flip an original image (claims 5, 18, and 32) or to store data indicating that an original image was rotated (claims 8, 21, and 35) or to store data indicating an original image was flipped (claims 9, 22, and 36) prior to the compression and storage of the altered image for the purpose of increasing the number of images storable in a memory device as is required to maintain a *prima facie* case of obviousness. That Kagle fails to disclose modifying Takagi to include these claimed elements appears to have been acknowledged in the Advisory Action of August 29, 2005 wherein it was stated that the “Examiner believes that Applicant’s described ‘purposeful’ rotation/flipping process distinguishes from Kagle...”

Considering now Kagle, Kagle describes a system in which a digital camera includes an orientation sensor and, when a picture is taken, the picture can be automatically rotated to correct for camera rotation prior to the picture image being stored *as an original image* within the camera or the picture image can be stored in the camera *as an original image* without being

rotated coupled with the storage of an indication of the degree of camera rotation to thereby allow the picture image to be rotated to correct for camera rotation when the picture image is viewed *on an external device*. Nowhere, however, does Kagle disclose, teach, or suggest the desirability of rotating or flipping an already stored image, i.e., the original image, and then compressing the rotated or flipped image to thereby increase the number of images storable in a memory device. Thus, while Kagle may disclose storing camera orientation data along with an original image when it is captured by a digital camera, it is not evident nor has been explained why one of ordinary skill in the art would have turned to this disclosure within Kagle to address the problem confronted by the claimed invention of how to increase the number of images storable in a memory device, i.e., why it would be evident from the disclosure with Kagle to rotate or flip an original image prior to the altered image being compressed and stored. Still further, it is respectfully submitted that the teachings within Kagle would not lead one of ordinary skill in the art to arrive at the invention claimed when the claims are considered “as a whole.” Rather, the plain teachings of Kagle would suggest nothing more than the desirability of modifying Takagi/Lee/Kutchu to store camera orientation data with an original image that is captured by the camera which original image is captured using the camera settings selected using the displayed images of Takagi where the stored camera orientation allows the stored original image to be displayed on an external device in landscape mode, which will be appreciated as not being the invention set forth in the claims.

From the foregoing, while Kagle may disclose the desirability of storing camera orientation data to allow for the display of images on an external device in a landscape orientation, the disclosure within Kagle nevertheless fails to demonstrate that an artisan of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, confronted with the same problems and with

no knowledge of the claimed invention, would have selected the “camera orientation teachings” of Kagle (which are directed to the problem of correcting for camera orientation and not the problem of how to maximize image storage capacity) and combined those teachings with Takagi to necessarily arrive at the invention set forth in the claims when the claims are considered “as a whole.” Accordingly, it is submitted that the reconstruction of Takagi/Lee/Kutcha in view of Kagle that has been advanced in the rejection of claims 4, 5, 8, 9, 17, 18, 21, 22, 31, 32, 35, and 36 is not only unduly speculative but could only have been arrived at from hindsight knowledge impermissibly derived from the subject application. For at least this reason it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 4, 5, 8, 9, 17, 18, 21, 22, 31, 32, 35, and 36 fails to present a *prima facie* case of obviousness and must be withdrawn.

F) Remarks Addressing The Rejection Of Claims 10, 23, and 37 Specifically

Pending claims 10, 23, and 37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being rendered obvious by Takagi as modified by Lee as further modified by Kutcha as still further modified by Higgins.

In rejecting these claims it was acknowledged that none of Takagi, Lee, or Kutcha disclose, teach, or suggest altering the content of an original image by adjusting the size of the original image.

Considering now Higgins, while Higgins may describe that digital imaging resizing algorithms are well known and used to change the resolution of a previously acquired image before subsequent processing, it is respectfully submitted that nowhere does Higgins disclose, teach, or suggest the desirability of resizing an original image prior to altering the content of the image and prior to compressing the altered image to thereby increase the number of images

storable in a memory device. Rather, all the Higgins describes is that images may be resized and processed for the purpose of yielding maximum customer satisfaction of a printed photograph. Thus, while Higgins may disclose resizing an image as part of the photograph printing process, it is not evident nor has been explained why one of ordinary skill in the art would have turned to this disclosure within Higgins to address the problem confronted by the claimed invention of how to increase the number of images storable in a memory device, i.e., why it would be evident from the disclosure within Higgins to resize an image prior to altering the image and prior to the altered image being compressed and stored. Accordingly, since the disclosure within Higgins fails to demonstrate that an artisan of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, confronted with the same problems and with no knowledge of the claimed invention, would have selected the “image resizing teachings” of Higgins (which are directed to the problem of how to improve customer satisfaction in a printed photograph and not the problem of how to maximize image storage capacity) and combined those teachings with Takagi to necessarily arrive at the invention set forth in the claims when the claims are considered “as a whole.” Accordingly, it is submitted that the reconstruction of Takagi/Lee/Kutchra in view of Higgins that has been advanced in the rejection of claims 10, 23, and 37 is not only unduly speculative but could only have been arrived at from hindsight knowledge impermissibly derived from the subject application. For at least this reason it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 10, 23, and 37 fails to present a *prima facie* case of obviousness and must be withdrawn.

G) Remarks Addressing The Rejection Of Claims 25 and 27 Specifically

Claims 25 and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being rendered obvious by Takeda as modified by Kagle.

In rejecting these claims it was acknowledged that Takeda fails to disclose, teach, or suggest including data “indicative of whether each of the compressed images was flipped or the degree of rotation as compared to its corresponding original image...” and the image is flipped or rotated “so that the orientation of the displayed image corresponds to the orientation of its corresponding original image.”

Considering now Kagle, it is submitted that Kagle fails to disclose, teach, or suggest that which has been acknowledged to be missing from Takeda. Kagle describes a system in which a digital camera includes an orientation sensor and, when a picture is taken, the original picture is automatically rotated to correct for camera rotation prior to the picture being stored in the camera or the original picture image is stored in the camera as taken along with the degree of rotation of the camera to thereby allow the original picture image to be rotated to correct for camera rotation when the picture is viewed on a device external to the camera. Thus, Kagle, which discloses maintaining the orientation of a camera along with an original image that is captured by the camera, simply fails to disclose, teach, or suggest the desirability of storing an indication as to whether or not a compressed image was rotated or flipped as compared to its corresponding original image as is set forth in the claims. In Kagle, if the captured image is rotated by the camera, the system does not save the camera orientation data with the rotated image.

Furthermore, Kagle fails to disclose, teach or suggest the claimed *hand-held device that includes* a program that functions to access data corresponding to a compressed image *stored on the hand-held device* and which functions to use data indicative of whether the compressed image was rotated or flipped as compared to its corresponding original image *also stored in the hand-held device* to rotate or flip the image so that the orientation of the displayed image corresponds to the orientation of its corresponding original image as is claimed. Rather, in contrast to that which is

set forth in the claims, Kagle plainly describes that the stored camera orientation data is to be used by a device external to the camera to thereby allow the device external to the camera to display the captured, original image in landscape orientation. Thus, by failing to disclose those elements that are missing from Takeda, it is respectfully submitted that it cannot be said that the combination of Takeda and Kagle discloses each and every element set forth in the claims, considering the claims "as a whole," as is required. It also cannot be said that Kagle provides the requisite suggestion to modify Takeda to arrive at the invention set forth in the claims. For these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established and the rejection of claims 25 and 27 must be withdrawn.

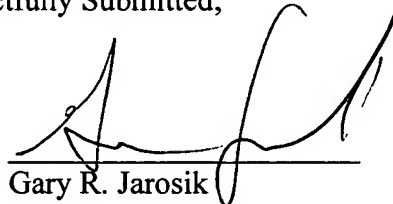
H) Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the application is in good and proper form for allowance. Such action of the part of the Board is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted;

Date: November 21, 2005

By:



Gary R. Jarosik
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VIII. Claims Appendix

The following is a clean copy of the claims involved in the appeal:

1. A method for compressing and storing a plurality of images, comprising:

creating for each of a plurality of original images a plurality of resultant images by altering the content of each of the plurality of original images a corresponding plurality of different ways;

compressing each of the plurality of resultant images;

selecting from the plurality of compressed, resultant images created from each of the plurality of original images one compressed, resultant image;

placing each of the selected one of the plurality of compressed, resultant images into a concatenation file; and

creating a look-up table corresponding to the concatenation file by which each of the selected one of the plurality of compressed, resultant images is retrievable from the concatenation file.

2. The method as recited in claim 1, comprising using a macro in an imaging application to automate the step of creating the plurality of resultant images.

3. The method as recited in claim 1, comprising using multiple techniques to alter the content of an original image.

4. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein at least one of the ways of altering the content of the original image comprises rotating the original image.
5. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein at least one of the ways of altering the content of the original image comprises flipping the original image.
6. The method as recited in claim 3, wherein the ways of altering the content of the original image are selected from a group consisting of changing the number of colors in the original image, changing the original image to grayscale, resampling the original image, sharpening the original image, changing the contrast of the original image, changing the brightness of the original image, changing the opacity of the original image, and leaving the original image as-is.
7. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the look-up table comprises data indicative of a file name for each of the plurality of original images, data indicative of a starting byte location of the selected one of the plurality of compressed, resultant images in the concatenation file for each of the plurality of original images, and data indicative of the length of each of the selected one of the plurality of compressed, resultant images in the concatenation file.
8. The method as recited in claim 7, wherein the look-up table comprises data indicative of the degree to which each of the selected one of the plurality of resultant images was rotated as compared to its corresponding original image.

9. The method as recited in claim 7, wherein the look-up table comprises data indicative of whether each of the selected one of the plurality of resultant images was flipped as compared to its corresponding original image.

10. The method as recited in claim 1, comprising adjusting the size of at least some of the original images prior to the step of creating the plurality of resultant images.

11. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of resultant images is compressed into a GIF file.

12. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the selected one of the compressed, resultant images has the smallest file size.

13. A computer readable media having instructions for automatically compressing a plurality of images, the instructions performing steps comprising:

creating for each of a plurality of original images a plurality of resultant images by altering the content of each of the plurality of original images a corresponding plurality of different ways;

compressing each of the plurality of resultant images;

selecting from the plurality of compressed, resultant images created from each of the plurality of original images one compressed, resultant image; and

storing the each of the selected one of the plurality of compressed, resultant images such that each of the selected one of the plurality of compressed, resultant images is retrievable to be displayed as a representation of its corresponding original image.

14. The readable media as recited in claim 13, wherein the instructions place each of the selected one of the plurality of compressed, resultant images into a concatenation file and create a look-up table corresponding to the concatenation file by which each of the selected one of the plurality of compressed, resultant images is retrievable.

15. The readable media as recited in claim 13, wherein the instructions use a macro in an imaging application to perform the step of creating the plurality of resultant images.

16. The readable media as recited in claim 13, wherein the instructions use multiple techniques to alter the content of an original image.

17. The readable media as recited in claim 13, wherein at least one of the ways of altering the content of the original image comprises rotating the original image.

18. The readable media as recited in claim 13, wherein at least one of the ways of altering the content of the original image comprises flipping the original image.

19. The readable media as recited in claim 13, wherein the ways of altering the content of the original image are selected from a group consisting of changing the number of colors in the

original image, changing the original image to grayscale, resampling the original image, sharpening the original image, changing the contrast of the original image, changing the brightness of the original image, changing the opacity of the original image, and leaving the original image as-is.

20. The readable media as recited in claim 14, wherein the look-up table comprises data indicative of a file name for each of the plurality of original images, data indicative of a starting byte location of the selected one of the plurality of compressed, resultant images in the concatenation file for each of the plurality of original images, and data indicative of the length of each of the selected one of the plurality of compressed, resultant images in the concatenation file.

21. The readable media as recited in claim 20, wherein the look-up table comprises data indicative of the degree to which each of the selected one of the plurality of resultant images was rotated as compared to its corresponding original image.

22. The readable media as recited in claim 20, wherein the look-up table comprises data indicative of whether each of the selected one of the plurality of resultant images was flipped as compared to its corresponding original image.

23. The readable media as recited in claim 13, wherein the instructions adjust the size of at least some of the original images prior to performing the step of creating the plurality of resultant images.

24. The readable media as recited in claim 13, wherein each of the plurality of resultant images is compressed into a GIF file.

25. A hand-held device, comprising:

a display;

a memory having stored therein a concatenation file having data corresponding to a plurality of compressed images each representative of an original image and a look-up table having data indicative of a starting byte location of each of the compressed images within the concatenation file and data indicative of the length of each of the compressed images within the concatenation file;

a program cooperable with the look-up table for accessing the data corresponding to each of the plurality of compressed images and for decompressing and using any accessed data to display an image representative of an original image, wherein the look-up table further comprises data indicative of the degree to which each of the compressed images was rotated as compared to its corresponding original image and the program is adapted to rotate the displayed image so that the orientation of the displayed image corresponds to the orientation of its corresponding original image.

26. (Canceled)

27. A hand-held device, comprising:

a display;

a memory having stored therein a concatenation file having data corresponding to a plurality of compressed images each representative of an original image and a look-up table having data indicative of a starting byte location of each of the compressed images within the concatenation file and data indicative of the length of each of the compressed images within the concatenation file;

a program cooperable with the look-up table for accessing the data corresponding to each of the plurality of compressed images and for decompressing and using any accessed data to display an image representative of an original image, wherein the look-up table comprises data indicative of whether each of the compressed images was flipped as compared to its corresponding original image and the program is adapted to flip the image so that elements of the displayed image are arranged the same as they appear in its corresponding original image.

28. A system for compressing and storing a plurality of images, comprising:

a computer having a means for creating for each of a plurality of original images a plurality of resultant images by altering the content of each of the plurality of original images a corresponding plurality of different ways; a means for compressing each of the plurality of resultant images; a means for selecting from the plurality of compressed, resultant images created from each of the plurality of original images one compressed, resultant image; a means for placing each of the selected one of the plurality of compressed, resultant images into a concatenation file; and a means for creating a look-up table corresponding to the concatenation file by which each of the selected one of the plurality of compressed, resultant images is retrievable from the concatenation file.

29. The system as recited in claim 28, wherein the computer uses a macro in an imaging application for creating the plurality of resultant images.

30. The system as recited in claim 28, wherein the computer uses multiple techniques to alter the content of an original image.

31. The system as recited in claim 30, wherein at least one of the ways of altering the original image comprises rotating the original image.

32. The system as recited in claim 30, wherein at least one of the ways of altering the original image comprises flipping the original image.

33. The system as recited in claim 30, wherein the ways of altering the original image are selected from a group consisting of changing the number of colors in the original image, changing the original image to grayscale, resampling the original image, sharpening the original image, changing the contrast of the original image, changing the brightness of the original image, changing the opacity of the original image, and leaving the original image as-is.

34. The system as recited in claim 28, wherein the look-up table comprises data indicative of a file name for each of the plurality of original images, data indicative of a starting by location of the selected one of the plurality of compressed, resultant images in the concatenation file for each of the plurality of original images, and data indicative of the length of each of the selected one of the plurality of compressed, resultant images in the concatenation file.

35. The system as recited in claim 34, wherein the look-up table comprises data indicative of the degree to which each of the selected one of the plurality of resultant images was rotated as compared to its corresponding original image.

36. The system as recited in claim 34, wherein the look-up table comprises data indicative of whether each of the selected one of the plurality of resultant images was flipped as compared to its corresponding original image.

37. The system as recited in claim 28, wherein the computer adjusts the size of at least some of the original images prior to the step of creating the plurality of resultant images.

38. The system as recited in claim 28, wherein each of the plurality of resultant images is compressed into a GIF file.

39. A method for compressing and storing a plurality of images, comprising:

creating for each of a plurality of original images a plurality of resultant images by altering the content of each of the plurality of original images a corresponding plurality of different ways;

compressing each of the plurality of resultant images;

selecting from the plurality of compressed, resultant images created from each of the plurality of original images one compressed, resultant image; and

storing each of the selected one of the plurality of compressed, resultant images in a memory device.

IX. Evidence Appendix

No evidence is being submitted herewith.

X. Related Proceedings Appendix

No copies of decisions rendered by a court or the Board are being submitted herewith.